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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : HUBBELL ,et al.
SERIAL NO. : 09/938,286
FILED : August 23, 2001
FOR : Novel Polymer Compounds
GROUP ART UNIT : 1713
EXAMINER : Fred M. Teskin

Commissioner for Patents
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Mailstop: Amendment

SIR:

Amendment/Reponse

In response to the Examiner's office action dated December 27, 2004 in the above-referenced patent application, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner consider the following amendment and arguments to determine the patentability of the pending claims on file. It is noted that Applicants have cancelled claims 4-12 without prejudice pursuant to the Examiner's restriction requirement and Applicants' election.

In the specification:

Under Detailed Description of the Invention, the paragraph describing PAO, is amended as follows

PAO is polyalkylene oxide, of which PEG is an example. PAOs ~~are~~ typically have C2 to C4 repeating units, with C3 and C4 repeating units typically blended with C2 (ethylene oxide) to increase water solubility. The size of the PAO segments is preferably such that the molecular weights for 90% or more of the segments is 50 kilodaltons ("kd") or 40 kd or less. In one embodiment, 95%, 98% or more of the segments fall within these size limits. Preferably, the average molecular weight of the segments is from 20 kd to 40 kd, or 25 kd to 35 kd. Preferably, PAO segments have molecular weight averages of at least 500, more preferably at least 1,000.